

APPENDIX A
Attorney Docket No. 9281-4258
Thin-Film Magnetic Head With Narrowed Track Width and Method for
Making Same
Kiyoshi Sato et al.

In the Claims

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A thin-film magnetic head comprising:

a lower core layer;

a gap layer formed on the lower core layer, ~~optionally~~ with a lower pole layer therebetween;

an upper pole layer formed on the gap layer;

an upper core layer formed on the upper pole layer; and

a Gd-defining layer for defining the depth in the height direction of the joint surface between the gap layer and the upper pole layer, the Gd-defining layer being formed on the lower core layer toward the back in the height direction from a surface facing a recording medium,

wherein the width in the track width direction of the gap layer is smaller than or equal to the width in the track width direction of the upper pole layer when viewed from the surface facing the medium.

Please amend Claim 7 as follows:

7. (Amended) A method for making a thin-film magnetic head comprising:

a step of forming a Gd-defining layer on a lower core layer so as to recede from a surface facing a medium in the height direction by a gap depth;

a step of forming a pole section comprising a gap layer formed on the lower core layer, ~~optionally~~ with a lower pole layer therebetween, and an upper pole layer formed on the gap layer; and

a step of etching for performing dry etching on both sides of the pole section when viewed from the surface facing the medium,

wherein, in the step of forming the Gd-defining layer, each extending section of the Gd-defining layer extending from either side of the pole section is set so as to have a predetermined width.